

Message Text

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73 S

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SSC-01 DRC-01 /120 W
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R 141712Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4171

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 223

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, TS

SUBJECT: PARTIAL MINISTERIAL REALIGNMENT

REF: TUNIS 0053

AFTERNOON JANUARY 14, 1974, FOLLOWING MINISTERIAL CHANGES
WERE ANNOUNCED:

1. HABIB CHATTI, DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET,
BECOMES FOREIGN MINISTER, REPLACING MOHAMED MASMOUDI, WHO
THE PRESIDENT TOLD ME WILL BE GIVEN SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
IN THE FOREIGN POLICY AREA, PRESUMABLY AS A SPECIAL
PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR (TUNIS 219).

2. HEDI KHEFACHA, MINISTER OF EQUIPMENT, BECOMES THE NEW
MINISTER OF DEFENSE, REPLACING ABDALLAH FARHAT, WHO TAKES
KHEFACHA'A POSITION AS MINISTER OF EQUIPMENT.

3. MOHAMED ENNACEUR, WHO WAS REMOVED AS GOVERNOR OF
SOUSSE IN MAY 1973 (SEE TUNIS A-079, MAY 30, 1973) BECOMES
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THE NEW MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS, REPLACING FARHAT

DACHRAOUI, FOR WHOM A NEW POSITION HAS NOT AS YET BEEN
ANNOUNCED.

COMMENT: REPLACEMENT OF MASMOUDI NOT RPT NOT UNFORESEEN
(TUNIS 0053), AND CHATTI, SINCE TAKING PRESIDENCE POST HAD
BEEN VIEWED AS POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT SO LONG AS BOURGUIBE
JR. REFUSED POST. REPLACEMENT OF FARHAT WITH KHEFACHA IS
PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT AFTER TUNISIA-LIBYA MERGER
ANNOUNCEMENT. KHEFACHA IS BOURGUIBA'S COUSIN AND MOST
LOYAL MINISTER, AND BOURGUIBA NO DOUBT WANTS LOYAL FOLLOWER
IN CONTROL OF ARMY AT THIS TIME.

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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